

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 04758 270115Z

73

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10 OIC-02

CU-04 AGRE-00 DOTE-00 HEW-06 HUD-02 INT-05 AID-05

CEQ-01 CIAE-00 ERDA-07 COME-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07

L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02 FEA-01

PA-02 PRS-01 /159 W

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R 262303Z OCT 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0181

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS USUN 4758

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: 31ST UNGA, SENV

SUBJ: 31ST UNGA: SECOND COMMITTEE: HABITAT CONFERENCE  
(ITEM 60(C))

1. SUMMARY. GENERAL DEBATE ON HABITAT BEGAN WITH STATEMENTS OF CONFERENCE SECRETARY GENERAL PENALOSA, AND CANADIAN MINISTER FOR URBAN AFFAIRS DANSON, FOLLOWED BY 12 OTHER SPEAKERS. PENALOSA AND DANSON BOTH EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO SEE A DECISION (ALMOST ANY DECISION) BE REACHED ON THE QUESTION OF POST-CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS. IF WHAT SPEAKERS ARE SAYING ARE INDICATIVE OF GROUP VIEWS, THEN THE EASTERN EUROPEANS PREFER THE STATUS QUO, THE WESTERN EUROPEANS AND OTHERS ARE SPLIT ON WHICH IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE SOLUTION AND HOW MUCH EMPHASIS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE WORK OF THE RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE THE LATINS FAVOR HEAVY EMPHASIS ON REGIONAL COMMISSIONS (OTHER THAN MEXICO) AND THE AFRICANS ARE STILL TOBE HEARD FROM. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 USUN N 04758 270115Z

2. THE THRUST OF CONFERENCE SECRETARY GENERAL PENALOSA'S

STATEMENT, AT THE OCTOBER 25TH SESSION OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE, OPENING THE HABITAT DEBATE, WAS THAT A DECISION MUST BE TAKEN WITH REGARD TO HUMAN SETTLEMENT INSTITUTIONAL FOLLOW-UP TO PRESERVE THE MOMENTUM GENERATED BY THE CONFERENCE. HE DID NOT MENTION THE RESTRUCTURING COMMITTEE'S WORK, NOR DID HE IDENTIFY HIS PREFERENCES AS TO INSTITUTIONAL LOCATION AND LINKAGE. CANADIAN MINISTER FOR URBAN AFFAIRS DANSON'S STATEMENT PARALLELED PENALOSA'S WITH REGARD TO THE NEED FOR RAPID ACTION ON INSTITUTIONAL FOLLOW-UP. DANSON FURTHER STATED THEIR INTENTION TO TABLE A) DRAFT RES ON HABITAT REPORT "...DRAFTED WITH ... A CONSENSUS IN MIND"; AND B) DRAFT RES ON THE POST-HABITAT USE OF AUDIO VISUAL MATERIAL. (COPY OF DANSON STATEMENT POUCHED DEPARTMENT.)

3. OTHER COUNTRIES SPEAKING AT OCTOBER 25TH SESSION INCLUDED: SWEDEN - IT SUPPORTS THE UNEP SOLUTION BUT IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER OTHER ARRANGEMENTS; JAPAN - IT BACKS THE CENTRE FOR HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING, TEMPERED BY ANY RESULTS OF THE RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE; BYELORUSSIA, UKRAINE, AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA - ALONG WITH THE SOVIETS THEY BELIEVE IN THE STATUS QUO, WITH BETTER EFFICIENCY OF EXISTING RESOURCES; GHANA - NO CLEAR PREFERENCE, BUT ITS SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT GHANA HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN HUMAN SETTLEMENTS WHICH THEY WERE PREPARED TO SHARE (YET ANOTHER CONTENDER?); AND BANGLADESH - WITHOUT MENTIONING FARRAHA BARRAGE OR INDIA BY NAME, BANGLADESH TOOK UP MOST OF ITS STATEMENT IN EXPRESSING VIEWS ON SHARED RIVER RESOURCE DISPUTES AND THE NEED FOR SETTLEMENT MECHANISMS AND COMPENSATION.

4. COMMENT: WITH OVER 70 SPEAKERS REMAINING (87 SPEAKERS INSCRIBED ON THIS ITEM SO FAR) IT IS UNCERTAIN IF NOT DOUBTFUL THAT GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENTS ON THIS TOPIC CAN BE CONCLUDED AS PLANNED BY THURSDAY OCTOBER 28TH. THERE HAVE NOT BEEN ANY DRAFT RESES YET SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARIAT ON THE SUBJECT, AND AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL, NO CORRIDOR SOLUTION YET IN SIGHT. MANY OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03      USUN N 04758 270115Z

DELEGATIONS ARE COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES WHO ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE AND CAME FROM CAPITALS, WITH STRONGLY HELD VIEWS AND FOR THIS ISSUE ONLY. WITH THE KENYANS, MEXICANS, CANADIANS, SWEDES, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, AND MANY OTHERS HERE IN FORCE, IT MAY BE MORE DIFFICULT THAN USUAL TO FIND COMPROMISE SOLUTIONS.  
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